

On Hand Experience on Use of Media In Higher Education: A Seminar for Staff of Fatima Jinnah Women University

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Target population: Senior faculty teaching at masters level programs

Duration of the course: One day, 9.00am to 5.00 p.m.

Rationale of the study: As discussed in other proposals submitted for Saga Project I have highlighted the need for training teaching staff for effective delivery of quality education in Pakistan. This project outlines a one day workshop for the teaching staff of Fatima Jinnah Women University to familiarize them with multimedia use. Aim is to practically involve them and teach them to Operate projectors, make transparencies, use power point and use remote control multimedia devices during class room lectures and for paper presentation in conferences.

As it is realized that the need to change a behavior requires a certain amount of motivation on part of the learner, it is necessary to motivate and to identify barriers which may restrict media use among the teaching staff of Fatima Jinnah Women University, although the University provides all facilities and encourage media use. One of the factors that hinder peoples use of media is age or "seniority level", where psychologically senior staff may hesitate to learn new technology oriented education along with the new younger faculty. Though the younger faculty is enthusiastic to use media and are all computer literate, it is however, hard to find many who would use internet services or on line educational programs for students among the senior staff members. Since the senior staff members are valued and respected for their vast experience and thorough knowledge in their field it is a pity not to be able to utilize it due to their lack of contribution in multimedia linked educational programs.

This program can not only be used for motivating senior staff members of Fatima Jinnah Women University, but this can be offered to senior faculty members teaching in higher educational programs from other institutions in form of a workshop. Thus the main aim and purpose of this one day workshop is to help senior faculty members overcome their hesitation to use multimedia in education and to offer on hand experience in using the multimedia apparatus in a non stress friendly atmosphere.

Contents of the Workshop: The seminar room to be set up with on line five computers directly connected to the main server, projectors, multimedia connected to laptop and scanner, and Video and T.V with some educational videos.

9-11 AM

10 members to attend the workshop at one time. The instructor takes ten minutes to introduce the nature and aim of the workshop and use of multimedia and how user friendly it is. To encourage questions and to help each other out chalking out new ways of teaching. The mode of instruction here will not be lecture like as the senior faculty has to be made comfortable with the idea of learning new things without making them feel hesitant. Method here will be more like introducing the technology taking approach of multimedia companies when they arrange a seminar to introduce their products, than lecturing the faculty.

Five minutes to each member to explain to other faculty members about the content area they cover for their course and to familiarize other members with the common teaching style and evaluation system in the class. All the members are to note main points about teaching method used by others so later they can suggest use of technology to either update or change of teaching style to others by including media use while teaching.

Introducing use of projectors and video use: As the room will be set up in a way that all the equipment is already set for demonstration, the instructor simply introduces the model giving know how about how to operate the system. Situations where the projector can be used, how cost effective it is, how we can make transparencies and how making transparencies can save time. Participants can operate the video and remote control TV and use the sample videos to help them overcome hesitation to use the apparatus in class room situation.

Providing Transparencies and markers and asking faculty to make transparencies for one of the lectures. Here the instructor moves around suggesting colors, sub heading and tea is served making the atmosphere casual while the participants work.

12-1.30 P.m.:

The participants in groups of two are seated on the computers already connected to the server, and guided as how to use power point, with the instructor working on the laptop connected to screen so the members can easily follow the steps. Participants requested to make the same transparency they made by hand in power point. Participants interact and can ask questions, make suggestions and then save the work on disks. Have print out of their work. Specific emphasis is laid on how they can save the work on a small disk and not worry about files and papers, and how easy it is to change the contents with changes in syllabus without much effort as is the case with writing notes. Emphasis on how giving detailed notes to students increase their work and lesser effort on part of students to use libraries and how copies of transparencies can be given to students where they will have to work hard to make notes which is beneficial for the students.

Lunch Break 1.30-2.00

2.00-3.30

Each participant to use the projector and discuss the out line of work and explain the course to others with the hand made and computer made transparencies. Others can effectively participate and suggest changes and comment on presentation.

3.30- 4.30 p.m.

Tea served while the instructor shows the use of internet on laptop, reaches different sites, information links, how to get on line membership for subject related organizations, and how to publish work on the net.

Participants again in pairs of two to use computers and work while the instructor can guide them on the net using laptop or on individual level. All participants guided to open up sites for on line books related to their field and have print outs, and latest research in their area.

4.30- 5.00 p.m.

General discussion about how they think with new research and online help they can modify their syllabus. Also how many of these would like to use projectors in class room situation. The technical staff would be present and also the admin staff to there and then arrange for the arrangement of such facility for the teacher and make note that it would be provided.
